Mat-Su Monitor

APRIL 2017 VOLUME 40 NUMBER 4

HEATHER'S TOP 8 PAGE 7

CLUB CORNER PAGE 11

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MONITOR ASKS PAGE 13

Public patrons and students alike enjoy the potlatch and activities provided by the Alaska Native Culture Club's Elizabeth Peratrovich Day. Story on page 5.

Turn It Up

By Jack Rogers, Student Government President

What, you might say?

Your Student Government has come up with this catch phrase. Translation: let's get the Mat-Su College students involved. Let's be transparent and let them know how their student government is run.

Some students are limited on time because of jobs and families, and burdened with homework, projects and studying for tests. This too is the life of your Student Government. As students we know what you are going through.

So, can we "Turn It Up", can we ask you to get involved? Your student activity fee, paid by all students who carry six credits or more, is abundant right now. Clubs are supported with financial help from these fees. Stop by and see how this works… you can make it happen. Join a club that is already started or start your own.

Clubs not in your plans right now? That is fine, suggestions are always welcomed. Did you ever ask… What happens to any student activity fee (your money) that is left in our account at the end of the semester? Here it comes, the transparent part. The College gets all your remaining funds back. And the very next questions every student should be asking…What are they spending my money on?

Student Government has no idea. All we are aware of is the basic figure that will go back to the college at the end of the semester. We don't even know a bottom line figure like you do on your checking account at the end of the month. "Turn It Up" is our way of asking for your help to use this money before we lose it.

Students enjoying the Carnival before Spring Break is an example of your monies working for you. The up-

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

Interested in becoming Student Government President or Vice President? For details or a candidacy application, stop by the Student Government Office (JKB 114) or contact Student Government Secretary Thomas Brass at 907-745-9759 or uaa_mscstudentgov@alaska.edu.

Applications due April 11

Elections on April 25 and 26

APRIL CALENDAR

Academic deadlines:

March 31: Apply for spring graduation by this date to have name in printed program.

April 3: Fall 2017 registration opens for seniors.

April 4: Fall 2017 registration opens for junions.

April 5: Fall 2017 registration opens for sophomores.

April 6: Fall 2017 registration opens for freshmen.

April 28: Spring graduation application deadline.

Math events:

March 25: Math Department Cram Jam, SNOD 117-119 from 9 to 2.

March 31: Math study session with Dr. Graham, 9 AM-noon, SNOD 103.

April 7: Math study session with Dr. Allen, 9 AM-noon, SNOD 103.

April 14: Math study session with Dr. Grabarek, 9 AM-noon, SNOD 103.

April 21: Math study session with Dr. Graham, 9 AM-noon, SNOD 103.

April 29: Math Department Cram Jam, 9 AM to 2 PM. SNOD 117-119.

Journey events:

See http://matsu.alaska.edu/journey for a full list of health and wellness-related events.

Other events:

March 28-29: Human Services Club Escape Room, Snodgrass Hall, 12-6 PM.

March 29: Financial Awareness and Student Loan Savvy, 2:00 PM, FSM 105.

March 30: Alaska Grown Presentation, 6-8 PM. FSM 204. Open to the public.

March 30-April 1: Human Services Club Escape Room, SGH, 11 AM-7 PM.

April 4: Deadline to enter A projects and papers in the Student Showcase competition.

April 4: Financial Awareness and Student Loan Savvy, 10:30 AM, JKB 108.

April 12: Student Government Pizza Day, atrium, 11:50 AM-12 PM.

April 17-19: High School Student Art Portfolio drop-off period. For details see http://matsu.alaska.edu/departments/fine-arts/

April 22: Alaskascape Tundra Talks event, 10 AM-2 PM.

MSC SGC

Get involved with your STUDENT GOVERNMENT Meetings Wednesday 11:50 - 12:50 JKB 108

Get involved with YOUR paper!

The Mat-Su Monitor is open to students of all experience levels. A paper like ours always needs writers, artists, graphic designers, advertisement coordinators, photographers, and more (maybe you can contribute something we haven't even thought of)!

Meetings: Mondays and Thursdays, 12:00 to 12:50, in OLB 214 (upstairs in library).

Paniqsiqpiisvik tatqiq, "Moon for bleach skins"

By Rachel Goodall

In March the sun is high in the sky, the air is still cool. The snow is beginning to rot from the longer days of the bright sun light.

The Bearded Seal is a large part of the Inupiat diet. The skin is stretched on a frame and completely cleaned of all debris. It is set outside to be bleached by the sun. It turns a soft white color, like a soft leather that is very smooth to touch.

The uses are mukluk bottoms, trim for fur parkas and for decoration on slippers or trim. The Elders of times-past used this skin to make water proof mukluks for the warmer seasons. They were very effective and light weight

so one can run well with them on. Using the willow bark they soaked the skin until it was dyed a reddish brown color. Now when you see a pair of mukluks you will know what the bottoms are made from!

Literacy Among American Children Part II: Solutions

By Gig Grant

Editor's note: this is the second in a series of articles on reading and kids in America. For the first part, see our March issue. Watch for the third and final installment in our upcoming Summer issue.

Some of the problems parents have in teaching kids to read are a lack of confidence and resources available to them. In spite of efforts that show the importance of parents, more resources are needed to properly equip parents in their efforts to help their children. It is important to prepare and use all resources available to understand the needs of America's children and how parents can best help them learn how to read. In the following plans to increase literacy among American children are actual examples of programs that have been tried and proven. Many of the answers to these tough but perplexing questions can be found in the following models.

More resources are needed to properly equip parents in their efforts to help their children read. It is important to prepare and use all resources available to understanding the needs of the American's children and how parents can best help them learn how to read. In the following plans to the solutions to increase literacy among American children are actual examples of programs that have been tried and proven. Many of the answers to these tough but perplexing questions can be found in the following models.

Phase 1: Action-Overcome, using Dog Gone Good Reading

The first solution is called Dog Gone Good Reading. Parents are told about the program during parent conferences and are encouraged to participate as listeners who help their child when needed. Next, in small groups the children gather

Continued on page 15

Genesis

By Art Carney

As a young adult I rejected a number of religious beliefs, while continuing to practice the basic spiritual principles of Western Culture. However, questions concerning our "existence" continued to bother me, and eventually I began to suspect there was an emerging "Sense of Intelligence" that realized an on-going "Need for Change" was frustrated by the paradox of "being" in a "nothingness." "Nothingness" didn't make sense, therefore, the growing Sense of Intelligence developed a set of laws that could produce a changing form of physical matter that could satisfy the ever-present Need for Change. Sadly though, a source of energy was needed to activate the newly formed laws of physics, and the absence of energy caused emotional feelings of frustration to reach the boiling point, which made the Sense of Intelligence realize that emotional feelings can be a powerful source of energy.

However, before any energy could be produced, the Sense of Intelligence and the Emotional Feelings had to become united in a symbiotic relationship that would "create" a primordial "Force of Logic." After the union of Intelligence and Emotion was consummated, the Intelligent nature of the Logical Force activated the laws of physics and established the universe, which set the stage for the Emotional nature of Logical Force to establish an evolving realm of life on Earth, where human beings have achieved self-consciousness. We are born ignorant and must learn everything from personal experience and help from other people, but we are still at the leading edge of life's evolution. However, we are also unique individuals who have different levels of intelligence and emotional awareness—which explains why mankind's progress is so slow, even though it is steady.

Regardless of various religious beliefs about the mysteries of "creation," all human beings contribute to the upward spiral of human progress. All human cultures practice some form of organized religion because it helps us live together in relative peace, but we also need to pursue modern science because it contributes to our survival, as well as our personal ease and comfort. Physical survival should be the first priority of all living creatures because there is no end to evolutionary progress. Our recent "Age of Enlightenment," might be the leading edge of a future "Age of Cosmic Consciousness," which may explain many mysteries, such as psychic ability, intuition, and healing powers, as well as the imaginings of science fiction. Even if Earth is destroyed, the Intelligent and Emotional nature of Logical Force will continue to survive … perhaps in accordance with some religious beliefs? Maybe our personal self-consciousness will become an objective observer of future evolution.

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The *Mat-Su Monitor* is the student newspaper of Mat-Su College. The *Monitor* aims to report college news and serve as a forum for student writing. The *Monitor* seeks submissions of news, editorials, and short fiction from all students, staff, and faculty of Mat-Su College. All students are invited to attend the *Monitor*'s weekly meetings. Details on participating in or submitting content to the *Monitor* can be found at http://matsu.alaska.edu/office/student-government/student-clubs/mat-su-monitor/.

The Mat-Su Monitor is funded by the Mat-Su College Student Government Association and our advertisers. For information on advertising in the *Monitor* contact Micah Muer at mwmuer@alaska.edu or 907-745-9758.

The opinions expressed the *Monitor* article are solely those of its authors. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policy of the college, its students and employees, or the wider University of Alaska system.

MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Play an important role on the Mat-Su College Campus. Being on a committee can help to enhance your career, give you a chance to give back to your community, and give you the opportunity to challenge yourself by helping to shape your society.

Current Mat-Su College Committees open to the student body:

- Board of Elections
- Concert Committee
- Constitution Committee
- Dance Committee
- Finance Committee
- Health and Wellness Committee
- Mat-Su Carbon Crew
- Pizza Committee
- Planning Committee
- Renewable Energies Committee
- Sports Committee

Or join one of the student clubs. Clubs are a great place to meeet like minded people, have fun, learn new things and relax.

- Alaska Native CultureClub
- Christian Society of Fraternity and Service
- Drama Club
- Human Services Club
- Mat-Su Carbon Crew
- Mat-Su Dance Club
- Mat-Su Monitor
- MSC Veterans' Club
- Paramedic Association

Joining a committee or club looks good on resumes as well as gives you a chance to connect with fellow students, staff and faculty. You owe it to yourself to try them out. If you don't see a club that interests you, you can start one of your own. Student Government will fund you up to $300 to cover expenses. You can pick up a form at the Student Government office in JKB 114, near the café.

The Leadership Summit

By Thomas Brass

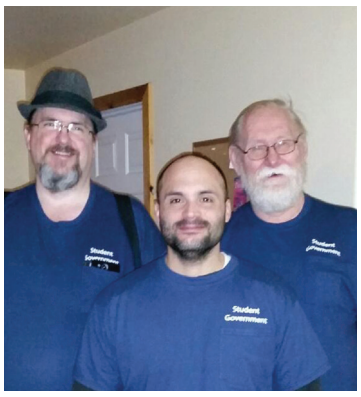
On February 24-26 in Talkeetna, the Mat-Su College was represented by three individuals. Jack Rogers II, Phillip Jean, and Thomas Brass (myself). We are your Student Government Council President, Senator, and Secretary/Treasurer respectively.

I have lived in Alaska most of my life and until this weekend, have never been to Talkeetna. If I were to make any recommendations, I think it would be nice to visit when there wasn't 3 feet of snow covering everything. Summer would totally enhance the experience.

We had our 'Summit' at the *Gateway to the Arctic Camp.* A bit cold but beautiful nonetheless. The whole facility is less than five years old and built solely by volunteers.

Check in time was at 5pm on Friday and the Mat-Su contingent was the only one to show up on time. Apparently there was an accident on the Glenn Highway, just this side of Eagle River which delayed the majority of the other attendees until almost 10pm. This gave us a chance to get acquainted with the people that were putting on the event. I was surprise to learn that it was inspired, planned, and put together by the UAA Student Club – Simple Truth.

There were several speakers, a few from the UAF campus, some professionals (Alumni's) from Anchorage and the Keynote Speaker James Robbins. A lot of the instruction was on being a 'Servant Leader,' how to be a servant to the people you are leading, the Law of Reciprocity, how to give recognition, how to help the people you are leading grow. All very interesting and all three of us took lots of notes.



Thomas Brass, Secretary/ Treasurer, Philip Jean, Senator, and Jack Rodgers II, Student Government President at the UAA Leadership Summitt 2017.

I enjoyed my time there and I feel I got a lot out of it. If you, the reader, ever have a chance to go to something like this in the future, I highly recommend it. Just remember, the first step of learning something new is stepping out of your comfort zone.

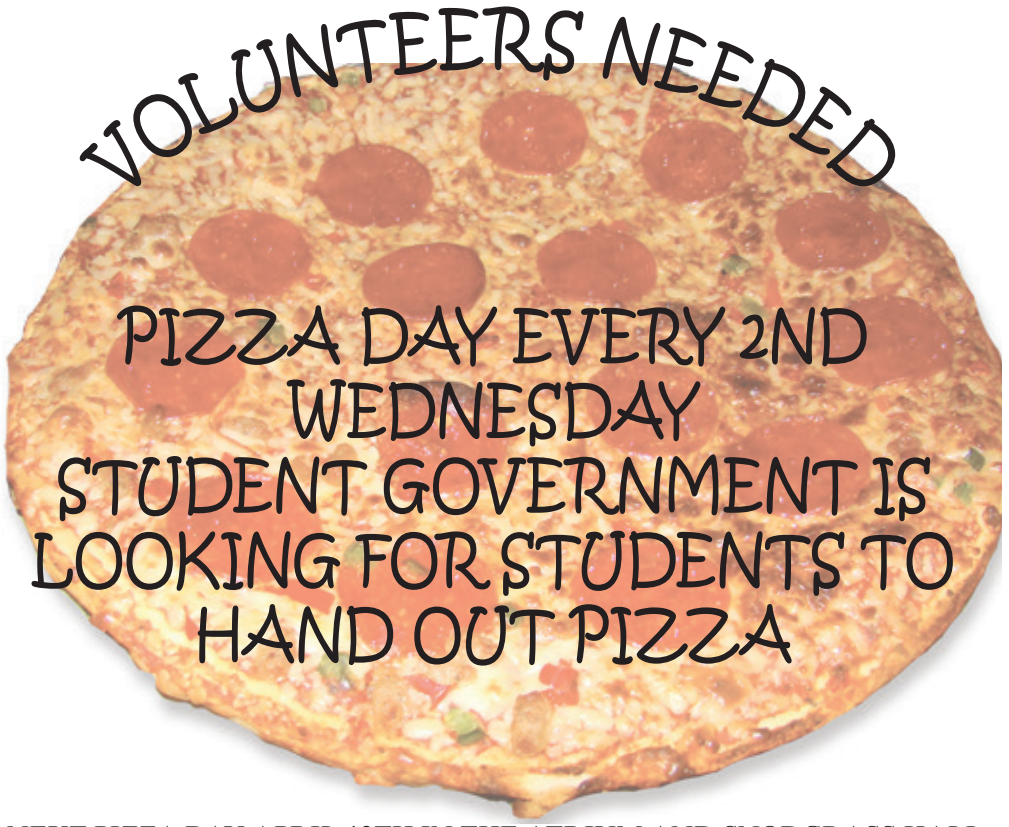
Representing In Juneau

By Jack Rogers, Student Government President

At my recent trip to Juneau while representing our college, I found the representatives to be true politicians. Wanting to make things better but unable to stand up and do what needs to be done. They talked about diversity, but were unable to address the elephants in the room.

Yes unfortunately in our present financial situation we have two elephants in the room, the oil tax credits (which, by the way, is about twenty-five percent of our budget) and the inability to truly work on diversifying our economy. I learned that where we once had a robust forestry business in several places in our state—making lumber and more importantly jobs for our citizens—now they have been closing. I'm not the smartest man in the world, but I know that without making more jobs and making different ways for people to make a living, then we as a state will have to contribute more and more of our PFD money to cover the cost of running our state.

I do not mind paying to help keep things going, but when "our" money is given away to oil companies to come here and make millions—my mistake, billions—of dollars in oil revenue then something has to change. Get rid of the oil tax credits, save us over a billion dollars that we do not have to take from our PFD to give to other oil companies. There is a problem in Juneau, but we can fix it. As I have learned here lately, you have to stand up together and say enough. Some things are worth fighting for. The future of our state is one of them. We cannot do it alone, but together we can make this a better state for our children and our children's children.



NEXT PIZZA DAY APRIL 12TH IN THE ATRIUM AND SNODGRASS HALL

Student Government Council Scoop

By Philip Jean

This article is written to inform the students of Matanuska-Susitna College (MSC) about what is being discussed in Student Government Council (SGC) meetings, and to inform the Student Body of what their SGC is doing for them. Here is the scoop.

This article covers SGC meetings from February 08, 2017 to March 08, 2017. SGC meetings are open to all students and starts at 11:50 AM every Wednesday in room JKB 108, unless otherwise posted.

- SGC has three new members and extends a warm welcome to Clare Kudyba as Senator, Joshua Weeks as Senator, and Thomas Brass as Secretary.
- If you would like to volunteer your time, the Mat-Su Carbon Crew is planning to have a highway clean-up when the snow is gone. Keep an eye out for information on the day(s) on informational posters, or on the Mat-Su Carbon Crew bulletin board.
- Elections for the Student Government Council president will be April 24th and 25th. If you want to run for Student Body President or Student Body Vice President your application needs to be in ten days prior to the election.
- If you as a student would like to have events (concerts, comedians, motivational speakers, etc.) please leave a suggestion with the Student Government office.

Summer Science Academy Scholarships Available

Mat-Su College Student Government is offering twenty (20) scholarships to children of students attending Mat-Su College. These scholarships are for the Summer Science Academy that is held on the Mat-Su College campus. There are four (4) different classes:

- Mini-Med School I, June 5-9, 8:30-noon.
- Crime Scene Investigation, June 12-16, 8:30-noon.
- Health Care Career Exploration, June 19-23, 8:30-noon.
- Mini-Med School II, June 26-30, 8:30-noon.

All classes have spaces available. Please stop by Student Government in JKB 114 and pick up an application form. All students are welcome to apply. Applying should take only a few minutes. These scholarships are for 6th, 7th, and 8th grader students. Please stop by and apply.

The Journey of Dragon Approved events: A review

By Heather Deadmond

I recently had the opportunity to attend a few culturally significant events, which are full of useful information and mind-expanding ideas. Even better, these special events were hosted on our very own Mat-Su College campus. What are these amazing opportunities, you ask? They are hosted through the Journey program, and are known as "Dragon Approved" events.

On February 18th, Anchorage based Improv group, *Urban Yeti,* performed at the Glen Massay Theater. The performance was highly dependent on audience participation and showcased the actors' abilities to think on their feet and make people laugh.

First, the MC, or host of the show, introduced the cast and proceeded to explain what Improv is (short for improvisation) and how a skit would normally run. Then, he went around and asked for guided suggestions from the audience. Before each different segment of comedy, he explained how the game worked and what kind of suggestions were needed for the performance to go most smoothly.

One of the most enjoyable segments was called "Dream Sequence." To begin, one member of the audience was chosen to provide a dream they had had. All of the performers, except one, left the stage so they could not hear the original dream being told. Then, that performer was required to pantomime the dream of the audience member to another actor as they came back out on stage. That actor, then had to reinterpret what they just saw to the next person to come on stage, so they could pantomime the dream they had heard from the other actor. This led to some entertaining changes to the story, and by the end of it, the audience was practically rolling on the floor and the dream was nothing like the original form. *Urban Yeti Improv* put on an entertaining show, and I was very glad I attended.

Another Dragon Approved event that I attended recently was one of a few Thoughtful Thursdays. It was held in the art gallery on the second floor of FSM, and led by Deborah Bannan. She gave an informative talk on communication strategies, and covered some issues that may come up between two people if there happens to be a miscommunication. The other attendees and I sat around the table together, shared our own experiences, and concluded by watching an excerpt from the Great Courses Library on communication. It was a very nice break from the hustle of school life, and I would recommend attending a Thoughtful Thursday to put some education into your lunch hour.

If you've looked through your Journey handbook, you will notice these two events fall under the Off the Beaten Path category, on page 10. Even on that page alone, there are many more events and experiences to be explored. The other categories, which include Awareness, Balance, and Connection, also have various other Dragon Approved events to be attended. At the end of each event, make sure to collect your Sophia Stamp, and after you've collected 5 or more, you will get a prize!

Please see the Journey Guide for more details. If you haven't gotten one yet, they can be found around campus for free! Happy Travels!

Journey Choices: Tell your story at the Glenn Massay Theater

Mat-Su College, in coordination with the Palmer Museum of History and Art, will present "Story Board" on April 7, at 7:00 PM, in the Glenn Massay Theater on the Mat-Su College Campus. Students, staff, and faculty will present their stories about "Choices" as a part of MSC's Journey Program, promoting health and well-being in the campus community. Live music and refreshments will also be available. The event is planned following the story telling format and traditions of the Moth and Alaska's Arctic Entries.

Collect Your Prizes

Bring your Field Guide to Academic Affairs, JKB Room 133, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm to collect your prize(s).

- 5 stamps: Get a Frisbee (while supplies last)
- 6 stamps: Take a Pedometer (while supplies last)
- 7 stamps: Enter the drawing to win a t-shirt (one entry)
- 8-9 stamps: Enter the drawing to win a choice of yoga punch card, REI gift certificate, or MSC Bookstore gift certificate (up to 3 entries, while supplies last)

Pick up prizes as you reach each level. Deadline to enter drawings is April 28, 2017.

May 5th-International Midwives Day

Courtesy of Nadia Rausa

[Editor's note – this article was intended for publication in our May 2016 issue.]

International Midwives Day is celebrated on May 5th in over 50 nations to recognize and honor midwives who work to improve health education, wellness, and safety in childbirth for women throughout the world. In recognition of this day, the Midwives Association of Alaska (MAA), whose members consist of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives (CDM) and Licensed Apprentices, announce some of the newest collected data of vital statistics and birth outcomes for planned out-of-hospital deliveries attended by midwives throughout the state. Midwifery has always been an integral part of women's healthcare, and direct-entry midwives have been licensed in Alaska since 1992.

In 2014, there were over 11,400 births in the state (Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics), and of that number 620 women were served by licensed midwives. Of those 620 women, over 96% had a vaginal delivery, and less than 2% of women were transferred for an urgent problem. Additionally, less than 1% of those babies were transported to a hospital after birth for an urgent problem. On average, the babies weighed 8 pounds at birth, and over 96% of the mothers were still breastfeeding at their last postpartum visit.

MAA is proud of these excellent statistical outcomes of midwife-attended out-of-hospital (home and birth center) Alaska births. Midwives look forward to continuing to partner with women in Alaska as they make safe, educated, and deliberate choices about their health care and childbirth options.

The members of MAA extend gratitude to the physicians, certified nurse midwives, and other healthcare providers with whom they collaborate and consult, to the state legislators and representatives who support midwifery in Alaska, and to the women and babies they are honored to serve.

Mollie Whipple, license apprentice

Susan Terwilliger, CDM, President of MAA (907) 694-1123

Alaskscape

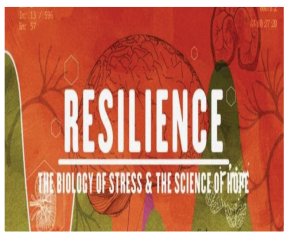
Topic: Honey

Event: Thursday, April 13, 6:00-8:00 p.m., FSM 204.

Focus: how-to demonstrations and discussions on many things that will help get you ready for summer!

R.O.C.K. Mat-Su presents: Resilience, a KPJR film.

Resilience chronicles the birth of a new movement among pediatricians, therapists, educators and communities, who are using cutting-edge brain science to protect children from the effects of toxic stress. The child may not remember, but the body remembers.



This is a free event for the community!

April 1 6-8 pm Glenn Massay Theater

Tundra Talks

Tundra Talks is all about involving the community in discussions on some of the most important issues in Alaska.

Mission:

- share related experiences among community members through discussion
- engage our community in meaningful communication/ discussion
- welcome the Mat-Su Valley community to the college: encourage familiarity with MSC's people and facilities
- develop a feeling of community through networking and shared service

Tundra Talks Now: This Year

This year, our topic is Alaska: The Great Land. We're not using a book; instead, we're focusing on films and presentations. We want to explore what makes our state and local area unique and to celebrate that uniqueness. We'll be looking at winter sports, nature's bounty, and Alaskan farming industry, ending with "Alaskcape," our presentations and demonstrations on topics important to Alaska! We're inviting many different people to speak on anything from Government Peak development and animal migration to harvesting honey or growing apples in Alaska.
We hope you join us!

Who Was Elizabeth Peratrovich?

By Micah Muer

On February 16 the Alaska Native Cultures Club commemorated Elizabeth Peratrovich Day. If you weren't there, read on to find out why -- to my mind, anyway -- Elizabeth Peratrovich warrants a spot on the calendar.

Peratrovich (1911-1958) was born into a Tlingit family in Southeast Alaska. As an adult she and her family moved from rural Southeast Alaska to Juneau, largely because they felt that there their children might have greater opportunities. Unfortunately, 1940s Alaska was essentially an apartheid society. Alaska Natives faced a lot of discrimination. Natives were banned from many places whites were allowed -- hotels, restaurants, shops. Elizabeth Peratrovich became one of the leaders in the fight to ban such discrimination, which culminated in Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945.

In fighting for Act, Peratrovich and other Native leaders no doubt came up against flagrant racism. But these crusaders also had to deal with a subtler, more maddening kind tactic: claims that racism didn't exist, or that if it did, it was only blown out of proportion -- or even incited -- by the Natives themselves. These arguments abounded even (or especially) at the highest levels of society.

Senator Frank Whaley called proposed Anti-Discrimination Act act a "lawyer's dream" that would only mean "creating hard feelings between whites and natives" where none existed.

Senator Shattuck claimed the bill would "aggravate, rather than allay, the little [racist] feeling that now exists." For Shattuck, no action was necessary because "considerable progress has already been made in these last fifty years" in catching up to "10 centuries of white civilization."

Senator Tolbert Scott went even further in peddling absurdities by insisting that only "mixed breeds" could possibly be upset by by racism, as "it is only they who wish to associate with the whites." Tolbert -- on the senate floor, no less -- praised "white women [who] have done their part in keeping the races distinct," while castigating white men for fathering children with Alaska Natives. "If white men" had not done so, "there would be no racial feeling in Alaska."

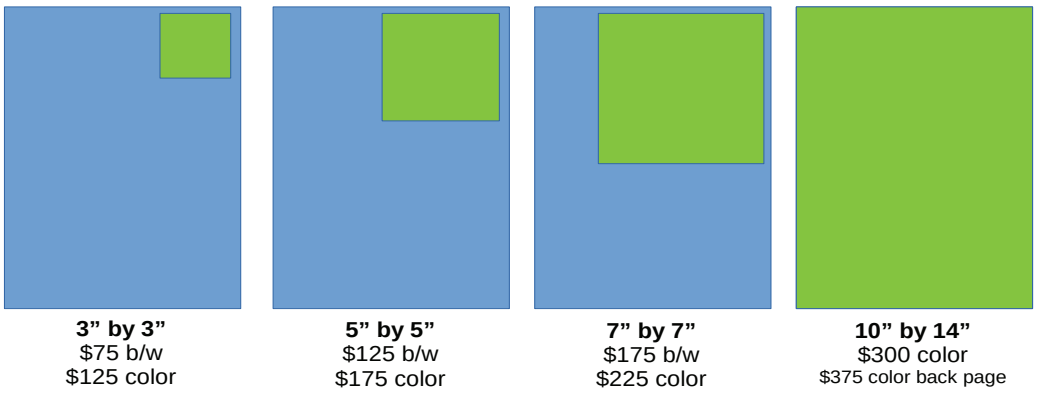
All of these denials in a state where "no natives allowed" signs were common. Where Natives made up a quarter of the population but sent only one delegate (out of 55) to the Alaska Constitutional Convention. Where Alaska Natives were ignored or condescended by government officials (such that a tuberculosis epidemic in the 1950s became a national scandal). And so on.

In my view Peratrovich and other Alska Native actvists deserve our respect for what they accomplished. But the real value in commemorating their fight is that doing so serves to remind us of a very important fact: that modern arguments that civil rights activists are engaging in "reverse racism" or "playing the race card" have a long, sordid history in justifying a racist, discriminatory status quo.

(All quotes found in the article "Superior Race Theory Hit in Hearing," from the February 6, 1945, issue of the Daily Alaska Empire, online at http://vilda.alaska.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/cdmg21/id/2058).

Thursday, February 16th, 2017
Mat-Su College
University of Alaska Anchorage
Alaska Native Cultures Club
presents
Elizabeth Peratrovich Day 2017
"No law will eliminate crimes but at least you as legislators can assert to the world that you recognize the evil of the present situation and speak your intent to help us overcome discrimination."
Thursday, February 16th
Atrium 11 am—2 pm
. FREE Frybread
. FREE Buffalo Tacos
. FREE Agutak
Movies & Discussion | JKB 108
11:00 am
For the Rights of All
12:00pm—1:00pm
Panel Discussion on Civil Rights in Alaska
1:00 pm
Yuuyaraq
Thursday, February 16th, 2017

Save the date!
2017 Machetanz Arts Festival — Saturday June 3
Machetanz Arts Festival
Mat-Su College
University of Alaska Anchorage



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MATH

Fridays with Faculty

MATH

Every Friday of the semester, with the exception of 3-24, and 4-28, in SGH 103.

You must check the schedule posted on the door of that room for the times that faculty will available for assistance.

The room will be available from 8am to 3pm.

Math Cram Jam

The Math Department

invites students to study with faculty.
Saturdays

March 25 & April 29

9:00 - 2:00 **In Snodgrass Hall**

Food and beverages are served and sponsored by MSC Student Government

HAVE SOME QUESTIONS? TRY ONE OF MAT-SU COLLEGE'S LEARNING SERVICES.

Elizabeth J Fallon Learning Center*

OLB 121 745-9772
http://matsu.alaska.edu/offices/the-learning-center/tutoring/

WRITING - JKB 107
Mon & Tues 9:00 - 1:00
Fri 10:00 - 2:00

MATH - JKB 107
Mon & Wed 10:00 - 4:00
Tues 10:00 - 3:00
Thurs 10:00 - 2:00

ASL - FSM 207
Mon &Wed 2:00 - 4:00

***Tutoring is available only for students enrolled in MSC courses. Hours are subject to change**

Tutors available January 17-May 5 **JKB 107**

Alaska State Library provides the Live Homework Hotline at tutor.com/alaska from 1pm-2am

www.tutor.com/military for military families who qualify

Khan Academy: Videos (math, science, economics, history) http://www.khanacademy.org/

Foreign Language: http://libraries.mangolanguages.com/alaska/start (includes English)

Writing: http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/index.html
http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/rules7e/#t_669460
http://www.paperrater.com/
http://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/

tutor.com

By Art Corvelay

It's 12:41 AM. Empty energy drink cans and candy bar wrappers litter your desk. You've just finished the last sentence of the last paragraph of your big paper – the one due at 9:00 AM. You hoped to get one of the college's Learning Resource Center's English tutors to read over it, but now it's too late. You're SOL.

Or maybe not.

Turns out all Alaska residents are eligible for live homework help through an online service called Tutor.com. These tutors can help with subjects ranging from Calculus to World History and nearabout anything in-between.

Using Tutor.com's services couldn't be easier. Just go to www.tutor.com/alaska, pick a subject, and then click "Connect Now." Within moments you will be able to chat with a real tutor; you can even share files for them to review or draw on a virtual whiteboard.

Still not convinced? Here's a few more selling points. Tutors are available from *every day of the* week from noon to 2 AM (goodbye, pants). The website actually works well. Tutoring is available to students from kindergarten to college. (Now somebody else can help your kids with their homework.) It's entirely free.

Convinced now? Good. Just don't forget about the college's Learning Resource Center; its tutors aren't available until 2 AM, but they're nice people all the same.

Additional Help available in the Learning Center

Rosetta-Stone Language Software

Computer Stations

Textbooks, Videos and Other Resources

Microsoft Office, for Free

By Art Corvelay

As a student affiliated with a UAA campus, you have free access to Microsoft's Office 365 website.

Office 365 offers browser-based versions of some the popular Office programs: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. These lack a few features found in their desktop counterparts, but make up for that by saving your files to "the cloud" and by allowing multiple users to simultaneously edit the same document.

Better still, Office 365 users have the option to install the full 2016 versions of Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Simply sign into Office 365 and click the "Install Now" button.

You can access Office 365 by visiting https://portal.office.com and signing in with your UA username followed by @alaska.edu.

Students who want a free, no-strings-attached office suite that will be available long past their graduation should look at LibreOffice (https://www.libreoffice.org/).

Spring cleaning your social media presence

By K.B. Holbrook

Spring time is here and that means it's time again for hunting for summer jobs or for looking for a full-time job if you are going to be graduating in May. As you are doing your research on potential future employers, don't forget that they may be doing research on you. According to a 2016 careerbuilder.com study, 60% of employers use social media to research job candidates and 59% research potential employees with a search engine. So now that you know future employers are going to be Facebook stalking you, what are you going to do about it?

How I see things, there are two routes to protecting your online image, either clean up your social media to where you would be happy with anyone seeing it, or make it extremely private so no one can see it. I personally go for a combination. The first option is the easiest. Delete everything you don't want a future employer to see so there's nothing to see. Remember that you can't delete photos that you have been tagged in, but you could untag yourself. That photo of you shot-gunning a beer may have seemed cool when you did it back in 2015, but today is probably not want to you want to advertise to the world. Most important, make sure you are happy with your profile picture as these are often viewable even when your accounts are private.

If you don't want to sort through your whole social media history, adjusting you privacy settings is another option. This should include all social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, tumbler and whatever other newfangled social media apps kids are using these days. Adjust your privacy settings accordingly. If you don't want employers seeing what you post, make it private, I recommend friends only. Be careful with "friends of friends", Alaska is a small state and if you have a buddy that works at the company, that option may not secure anything. Even if you have adjusted your privacy settings before, double check; Facebook especially is notorious for constantly changing their privacy settings options.

Continued on page 12

Are you ready to start?

Mat-Su College is offering free College 101 information sessions to help explain things like admission, financial aid, and choosing a career path.

Summer Sessions start at 3:00 p.m. in FSM 104

Returning adults, high school juniors and seniors are encourage to attend.

Upcoming Sessions

April 13 & 27
May 11 & 25
June 8 & 22

Call 907-745-9762 to reserve a seat!

Mat-Su College
University of Alaska Anchorage

Heather's Top Eight: Questions to Ask Your Advisor

Academic advisors are one of the most important cogs in the machine that is college. It's a good idea to sit down and chat with them every semester, and whenever you have questions or concerns about your college experience. Here at Mat-Su, we have several different types of advisors, including academic, career, and financial aid. For more information, take a look at the website at matsu.alaska.edu/office/student-services/academic-advising.

1. **What career opportunities may be available to me after college?**

   This questions is especially suited towards a career advisor, but academic advisors can help with this too. They can also give you ideas for applying your degree choice to careers you've never thought of!

2. **What will it take to graduate on time?**

   This question is especially important if graduating on time is a priority to you. Your advisor may recommend taking summer classes if you need to catch up.

3. **I'm struggling. What resources are available to me for help?**

   There is absolutely no shame in asking for help when you need it. Advisors will be able to help you find the help you need and get you in contact with the resources that will benefit you most.

4. **Can you explain the difference between the types of degrees offered here?**

   There are a lot of words that get tossed around about degrees, certificates, undergraduate, upper division… Your academic advisor can help you navigate and help you be in the right program for you.

5. **Which classes would be best to take first/ How do I register?**

   Advisors are always happy to show you the classes that will benefit your career choice, and will help you register for the right classes that fit together for

Continued on page 12

Digital Spring Cleaning is Easiest When You Have Nothing to Clean

By Micah Muer

Career Counselor Holbrook's article ("Spring Cleaning Your Social Media Presence") is a great reminder that our "digital footprints" -- the record of what we do and say online -- can be large and long-lasting. In many cases it is impossible to erase our past online activity. Many sites don't provide a "delete account" option, and even when they do, our content may have already been stored forever by search engines and sites like archive.org.

Instead of trying to scrub away your digital footprint, then, it is better to not make one in the first place. Here are some tips and tools to avoid sharing too much about yourself.

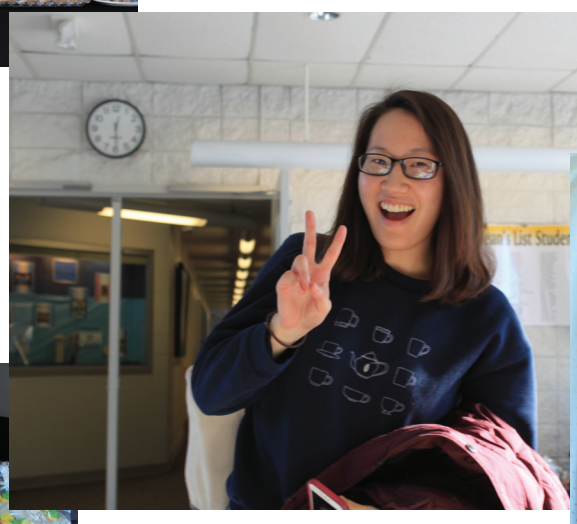
bugmenot.com: Have you ever created an account for a website you used only once? Stop doing that. Every time you sign up for a new site you are taking a risk. Some risks are small: giving personal information to unscrupulous website operators. Some risks are great: having your email address and password made public when a site is hacked (see https://haveibeenpwned.com). One way to avoid signing up for websites altogether is to use bugmenot.com. bugmenot.com is a database of throw-away logins for thousands of websites.

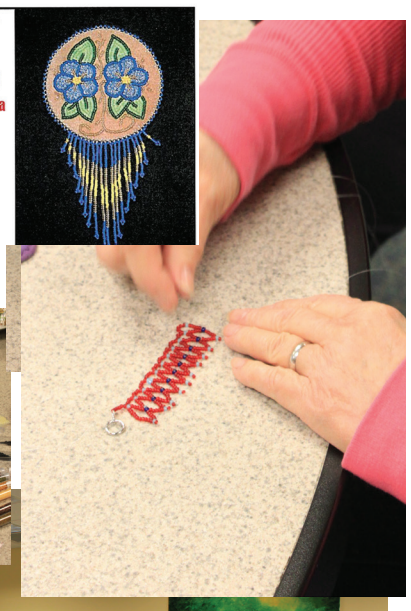
mailinator.com: if the website you need to use has no pre-made login on bugmenot, go ahead and create an account. If this is a site you don't caer about, don't use your real email address. Instead, use a mailinator.com address. Mailinator.com provides throw-away email addresses that require no registration. The way this works is simple. When a site wants your address, enter one in the form of anythinghere@mailinator.com. You can check that inbox by visiting mailinator and entering the address. This is very handy for when you need to click a link in an email as part of the account creation process.

justdelete.me: It's a good idea to delete any online accounts you don't use. Most reputable sites allow you to delete your account, usually through a link in the settings or profile section. If you can't find the link, or if it want to know how easy it will be to eventually delete an account, visit justdelete.me (which currently redirects to http://backgroundchecks.org/justdeleteme/). This site provides instructions for deleting accounts on hundreds of sites. It also ranks each site on how easy it makes it to delete your account.

Mat-Su Monitor
April 2017

MSC Christian Society Club had a Photo Booth op and baked goods available for donations which raised $280 for the local Big Brothers Big Sisters organization. Student Government has generously agreed to match the club's funds.





The Alaska Native Culure Club held a beading workshop open to the public in the cafe.

Mat-Su College
University of Alaska Anchorage
Alaska Native Cultures Club

Spring 2017

MSC Alaska Native Cultures Club meets:

Wednesdays at 3:50 pm in the Student Government Office
JKB 114 - 01/25—04/26/2017

Please join us. All are welcome!

Beading Workshop

Tuesday, February 21st
Mat-Su College Cafeteria
6 pm—8 pm

- FREE Instruction
- FREE Beads

MSC Student Government held a spring carnival...

Games were played
prizes were won
pizza was eaten
fun for all

MAT-SU CARBON CREW

Wed. 1:00-2:00 JKB 114
(Student Gov. Office)

Save the planet fanatics? NO!!! We are students that believe this planet is our responsibility and taking care of it is a necessity. Our main goal is to show others better ways to produce food, to use fuels more efficiently, and to use our resources in a manner that is beneficial. Yes, we love our world and want the people on it to thrive. Come join us. We meet every odd Wednesday of the month (1st, 3rd). FSM 114 3:00-4:00PM

Dance Club MSC

Dance Club

Wednesdays 1:15 - 3:30 FSM 207
For more information contact
Richard Hamlin at
rjhamlin@alaska.edu

Monitor

MEETING TIMES
Mondays
&
Thursdays
12:00-12:50
OLB 214
(upstairs in the Library)

Looking For
- Photographers
- Writers
- Reporters
- Marketing Reps
- Cartoonists
- Artists

Now taking submissions: Next deadline for entries: April 3.

Alaska Native Cultures Club
Mat-Su college

We meet **every Wednesday** 1:00 to 2:00 **JKB 114** . *Visit the* STUDENT CLUB CALENDAR on the Mat-Su website: http://matsu.alaska.eduOr e-mail us at: : MatSuANCC@gmail.com

Rock Hounds

Looking to start a new club on campus for those of us who might have been bitten by the Gold bug. Our goal is to plan trips to prospect, see the beauty our state has to offer and most importantly make new friends. Sign-ups are available in Student Government Office JKB 114. Please stop by and sign up.

America's Military has proven time and again that they are willing to answer the call when it comes to protecting America. The transition from soldier to student can be a daunting experience.

Student Veterans of MatSu College
Mat-Su College Arctic Dragons

The Student Veterans of Mat-Su College has been created as a place for all individuals, regardless of military affiliation, to get together and support each other while enriching our lives through the pursuit of continuing education.

Membership is open to anyone who would like to become involved. For more information on the Student Veterans of Mat-Su College, find us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/studentveteransofmatsucollege/ or email us at studentveteransofmatsucollege@gmail.com MEETINGS: WED. JKB 114 (STUDENT GOV. OFFICE) 1:30-2:30

INTERNATIONAL CLUB
Are you interested in International Studies?
Are you an international student?
Join us in starting up the MSC International Club!
If you would like to learn more, please contact Dr. Galina Peck.
Email: gpeck@matsu.alaska.edu
Phone: 907-745-9734
Mat-Su College

Human Services Club

The information gateway between community help organizations and the Mat-Su College student body.

Thursdays

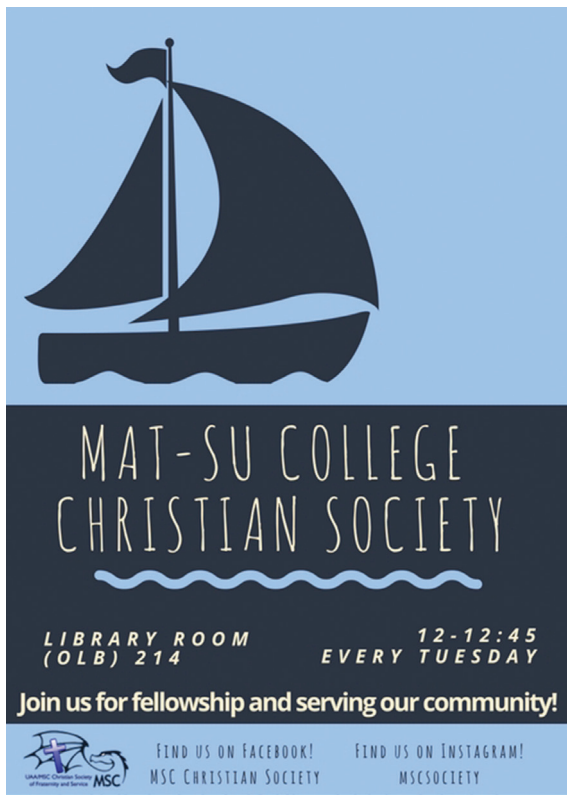
2:30 - 3:30

FSM 103

Paramedic Association MSC

Paramedic Association

Paramedic students plan and organize various safety and health activities for the campus and community, including CPR classes. For more information contact: Dane Wallace 746-9329


MAT-SU COLLEGE CHRISTIAN SOCIETY
LIBRARY ROOM (OLB) 214
12-12:45 EVERY TUESDAY
Join us for fellowship and serving our community!
Find us on Facebook! MSC Christian Society
Find us on Instagram! mscsociety

BUT FIRST...COFFEE

P	I	R	D	C	O	L	A	T	T	E	F	F	J	E
E	R	E	L	U	N	G	O	O	E	S	R	U	H	E
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S	S	C	W	A	S	S	T	E	H	N	G	O	H	F
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C	O	L	D	E	R	O	V	A	L	F	R	O	T	H

Circle the words from the list below. Place the leftover letters in the spaces for a special message!

_ _ _ _

Sharpe's Movie Guide

By Michelle Sharpe

Wassup fellow Mat-Su Monitor fans! We got some new movies and TV shows at the library, so if you want to know which ones are good, which ones are bad, and which ones are straight up weird, this is the article for you!

1. Swiss Army Man (Rated-R): Starring Daniel Radcliffe and Paul Dano, this is an extremely weird yet original movie about a man who befriends a corpse. The corpse is a multitalented; his farts help propel him across large bodies of water, shove something down his throat and jump on him, he turns into a harpoon. I cannot say that this is a good movie, but it is an interesting experience. I recommend watching this movie with an unwitting group of friends.

2. Kubo and the Two Strings (Rated-PG): This stop motion film is sure to thrill the whole family. It's a heartwarming story about a boy whose grandfather is a magical homicidal maniac and is trying to hunt down Kubo and his mother. Truly heartwarming. There's magic, there's a quest, and there are animals.

3. BFG (Rating-PG): Based on the book by genius Roald Dahl, this movie is about an English orphan named Sophie. Sophie is up, sees something she shouldn't have and gets kidnapped and almost eaten. But it's okay, the one who kidnaps her is a big friendly giant and they become friends and slightly codependent. Totally healthy relationship. In all honesty, I really loved this movie. The bad giants are made more silly than scary (they scared the bejeezus out of me as a kid), so kiddos should not get scared watching this. It's a good time, watch it!

4. Flight of the Conchords (Rated-MA): This is an HBO series that only lasted two seasons. If you like somewhat awkward comedy and if you like funny songs, this show about two struggling New Zealand musicians living in New York is for you! The characters Jemaine and Bret (played by Jemaine Clement and Bret Mckenzie) are both hilarious and lovable. Highly recommend it.

5. Hunt for the Wilderpeople (Rating-PG-13): Possibly my favorite movie of 2016, this movie is amazing! Imagine the movie *UP* but picture it in New Zealand. That's basically this movie. It's about a foster kid named Ricky who goes on the run with his guardian Hec (played by Sam Neil). Hilarity and epicness ensues. I recommend watching this one with subtitles, the Kiwi accents are a little hard to understand sometimes.

Well, these are my picks for the month of February. We are expected to get a lot more movies like Girl on the Train, The Accountant, Deepwater Horizon and more! Come check us out!

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR SCHOOL NEWSPAPER!

The Mat-Su Monitor

The Monitor is looking for:

- ~Reporters (bring your own article or take an assignment
- ~Artists and cartoonists
- ~Fiction writers and poets
- ~Students interested in marketing, sales, or accounting
- ~Graphic designers or anyone with desktop publishing experience
- ~Anyone else who wants to participate in a college newspaper!

For more information, or to submit article online, search Mat-Su Monitor on the college website

MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS
12:00-12:50PM
LIBRARY ROOM 213

Chromebook Pixel (2013 model) review

By Warren McClure

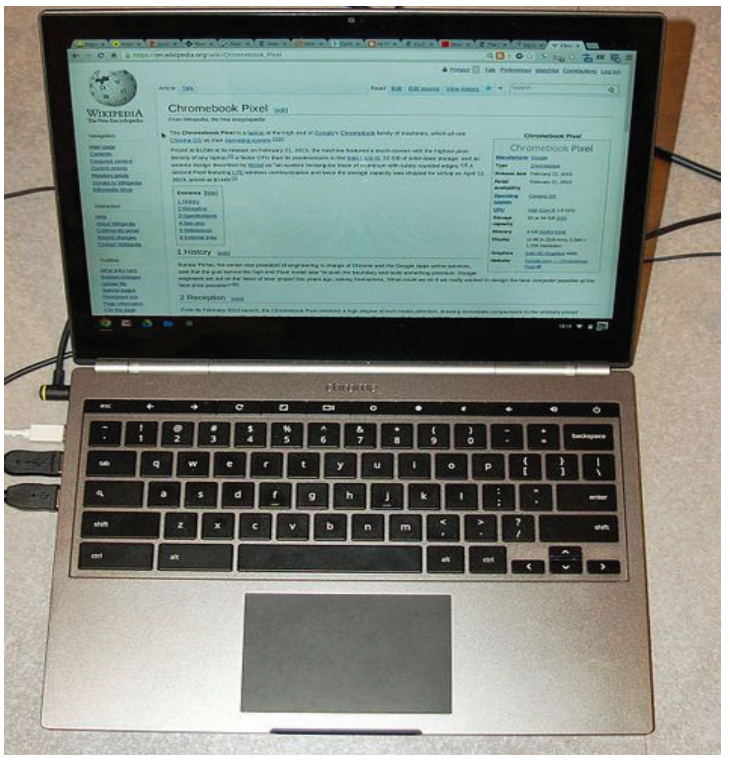


Photo by Pmsyyz, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chromebook_Pixel

The Chromebook pixel is unlike any other type of computer. With Chrome OS installed as the main operating system, installing Windows or Mac programs won't be possible but instead your able to download apps from Googles app store. The Chromebook just like any other computer has its pros and cons. In this review I will talk about who this Chromebook is for, why this Chromebook would be a better option compared to other Chromebooks, and why I bought it. I will also talk about who should stay away from Chromebooks and if it's worth to buy.

Before I get into the review I would like to explain what makes a Chromebook different and why these differences make a Chromebook appealing or unappealing to some people.

(1.) The first noticeable difference is that Chromebooks come with Chrome OS installed. In other words the entire operating system is essentially a web browser. This is appealing to some people because Chrome OS uses less resources when compared to Mac OS or Windows OS meaning that lower end hardware runs better and costs cheaper.

(2.) Chrome OS can't run Windows programs or Mac applications, making it harder for Chrome OS to get a virus.

(3.) Any file you download will be saved in the downloads folder on Chrome OS. You can't make a new folder outside of the downloads folder, this is inconvenient because it makes staying organized even harder.

(4.) Chromebooks typically come with 16GB to 64GB of storage but if you need more storage you can expand it with an SD card.

Who is this Chromebook for?

Unlike many other Chromebooks, this one is beautifully crafted out of black anodized aluminum (which Google calls gunmetal gray) making it more resistant to scratches and scraps while also providing a better adhesive for the gunmetal gray finish. The flat boxy design, with the rounded corners along with the gunmetal gray finis, easily makes this laptop one of the best looking laptops I have ever seen. If you are somebody looking for a good looking budget friendly laptop, then this is it for you. This Chromebook is also for people who need a portable light computer to take around with them. Its small enough to put in a backpack but big enough to type comfortably on.

Why you should buy this Chromebook over other Chromebooks

The biggest reason why this Chromebook pixel 1st generating is the best to buy right now is because you get the best bank for your buck out of this Machine. You are not only getting a beautifully crafted machine but you are also getting something that's powerful. The Chromebook pixel is packing a duel core third-generation Core i5 processor with 4 threads and 4GB of RAM. That allows for some decent multitasking, 32GB of eMMC flash storage and a brilliant retina-quality touch screen. Since this laptop uses Chrome OS as the operating system there's no need to install a virus program since Chromebooks can't get viruses 99% of the time. Thanks to the powerful hardware this laptop runs Chrome OS with ease. All this for around $400.00 new or refurbished is a steal of a deal if you ask me.

Why I bought the Chromebook pixel

When I was looking around for a Chromebook I wanted something that was not only affordable but powerful enough to last me a solid 3 to 5 years. Looking around online I came across the Chromebook pixel refurbished and I was shocked at the $330.00 price tag. Just 3 years ago, it was going for $1300.00. With its jaw dropping design and beautiful display it caught my eye at first glance, and now that I have it, it's hard for me not to want to use this machine every time I look at it. The speakers in this laptop sound a little muffled but they do get loud and sound good overall with no distortion even at max volume.

Who should stay away from Chromebooks

Chromebooks are made to get the basic things done such as surf the internet, watch videos, and type documents. Once you are offline you can't do much with a Chromebook. Unlike a Windows computer or Mac, you can't download many applications to use offline. Since Chrome OS is a fairly new operating system you can't do much photo editing or play many games. As far as I know there are no video editing programs for Chrome OS. So, if you are somebody who edits videos or photos day in day out or someone who likes to play triple A games then a

Continued on page 12

2017 Employer Expo!

During spring break for the past 5 years, Mat-Su College has hosted the Wasilla Jobs Center's Empolyer Expo. With over 100 employers registered, our continuing students and soon-to-be graduates can meet with a variety of employers who are looking for degree holders.

The Mat-Su Employer Expo features full and part-time positions with trusted organizations, ranging from entry-level customer service jobs to professional careers.

This year an estimated 669 job seekers attended. Those who missed it will have to remember to come next March or they can go to the next job fair held in Anchorage. They tend to be more industry specific; the Alaska job center network keeps a calendar up to date on the web, at *http://www.jobs.state.ak.us/jobfairs/index.html*

Mat-Su Job Center presents ...
2017 Mat-Su
Employer Expo!
JOB SEEKERS
More than 100 companies are expected at the Employer Expo!
Meet with employers hiring for entry-level, technical and professional positions.
Talk with career counselors to answer your job search questions.
Attend career workshops.
EMPLOYERS
A booth at the Employer Expo presents an ideal opportunity to fill your job vacancies while providing valuable exposure for your company.
The Employer Expo attracts hundreds of quality job seekers with broad qualifications.
SPONSORS
Sponsorship of the Employer Expo offers many advantages.
Your participation will help build your name, your image, and your pride in supporting an event that helps fuel and sustain the local economic climate.
This annual event is a wonderful opportunity to meet potential employees and to educate our local jobseekers on what you are looking for in an employee and how to apply with your company.
Jobs
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
A proud partner of the americanjobcenter network
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Wednesday, March 15, 2017
Mat-Su College, 8295 E College Drive, Palmer
Return completed Employer registration form via fax, (907) 352-2588, or email (joseph.knowles@alaska.gov).

Spring Cleaning *cont. from page 7*

One you have tightened up your social media presence, now would be a good time to google yourself and see what comes up. Google both your legal name and any nick-names you use. See what comes up in a regular search, but pay extra close attention to the google images search. Go through at least a couple pages of search results and remember, things stay on the internet a long time. I myself recently found that still have an active account on a LEGO builders website I created over 10 years ago when I was in middle school. Finding that was a relatively harmless novelty, but your find may not be. If you find something that exists that you aren't proud of, most websites have a process for deactivating or removing an old account.

So now that you know some steps to follow, go ahead and think about how you are represented online. Even if you have already put in some job applications, it's never too late. If you are unsure if your social media presence is professional or okay, I generally have an open door policy, but you can always make an appointment by calling 745-9762. Happy job hunting!

MSC MATH DEPARTMENT NEEDS DRIVE SUCCESS
Thanks to our students, staff, faculty and visitors My House recieved over 100 items and $50 from February's needs drive.

Chrome *continued from page 11*

Chromebook is not for you.

Is it worth to buy?

I think if you need a good, well-built laptop this Chromebook is for you. Its fast, reliable and good looking, too. Sure, it doesn't have a full blown operating system but some people don't need that. Some people just need a fast laptop that connects online to check emails, make payments, and to perform other basic tasks. I think at the price of $300.00 to $400.00 its worth the investment. You are not only getting something that's small and powerful but you are also getting something that's built out of great materials.

Business owners!

The Mat-Su Monitor is a great place to advertise your business or event. The Monitor has a wide circulation, with thousands of copies inserted in the Frontiersman and distributed thoughrout the Valley.

We also have low rates:

Ad Size	Cost, B/W	Cost, Color
3" x 3"	$75	$125
5" x 5"	$125	$175
7" x 7"	$175	$225
Full page	$275	$300
Full page, back	Always color	$375

Moreover, the Monitor runs relatively few ads, which ensures that your ad will stand out. Finally, advertising in the Monitor demonstrates your support for local students. For more on advertising, call **745-9758.**

Top Eight *continued from page 7*

your schedule.

6. **Tell me about online classes/ Do you suggest taking this class online?**

   It's inevitable that your schedule may not line up with an in-person class, and in this case it may be better to take a class online. Your advisor can help you determine if you should take it online or in-person, and which would be better for you.

7. **I'm not doing well in this class. What should I do?**

   As stated above, your advisor can and will help you find the resources you need when you don't know what to do. They may suggest dropping the class (if it's before the add-drop date), or withdrawing from a class that may end up hurting your overall GPA.

8. **Are there alternatives to taking [insert class that you don't want to take]/ What do these credits count towards?**

   In my first few semesters at college, I didn't realize how many options there are for filling the same requirements. I would have been stuck in many a class that I did not like if it weren't for my academic advisors showing me my options. Sometimes there really are classes that you cannot avoid, but most of the time, especially for general education requirements, there are plenty of different classes that fulfill the same credit load. Ask your advisor about it to see which one is the best for you and your career choice.

The Red Table Cloth

By Jack Rogers

The table with the red table cloth that sat outside your Student Government office has been taken down. A nice older lady came to the door right before lunch today; she had two children with her. All carried bags containing bananas and tangerines. She asked what happened to the table. Since she was not a student, she was told your Student Government could no longer offer students snacks, drinks or fruits and was ordered to take the table down. Confused, the lady mentioned how she knows for a fact some students need the extra food that was being made available to them. After a little further discussion she said she would put her contribution in the Atrium.

Walking through the Atrium I saw that she indeed kept her word. Tangerines, a banana, and a simple "free sign" were all that was left of her generous gift to the college students.

As the day went on the fruit and sign disappeared.

This simple act of kindness led me to write about the little red table cloth. Your Student Government started putting out bowls of candy that were left over from the Halloween Party. As the students responded, the drinks and snacks offered grew. The Student Government heard from teachers that students seemed more alert. Soon the students could be heard saying thank you through the door while selecting the foods they were offered. And by the end of each day all items were gone, except the oatmeal (remember when Mom told you, "eat your oatmeal, it sticks to your ribs"). The red table cloth had become a success.

But as everyone knows; the price of free, although paid by the students themselves, was to come to an end.

A man came to the Student Government door one morning. As I answered it, I did not know really who he was. He requested to speak to your Student Government President. I advised him the President was in class and would be back after ten; was there a message I could give him. He replied, "I need to speak to him about this!" With a cup of coffee in hand he gestured toward the red table cloth. He went on to say that it was hard for the college to get a vendor to serve food in the cafeteria and that the cafe vendor was losing money because of our red table cloth. I had been prepared to tell this man how successful the red table cloth had been. As I saw the somewhat strenuous expression in his face all I could do was ask who he was. He replied, "I am the Director."

So, as we all have seen the red table cloth that was filled with free snacks, drinks and fruits from the students own money, has been removed.

I remember seeing a young college student eating an apple while sitting working on her laptop. I felt glad that the Student Government had been able to offer it to her. I saw and heard students put snacks in their backpacks to save for later. Also, I heard how some students can hardly afford to pay for making copies in the library, so how could they afford to eat?

What students haven't seen and probably never imaged was your Student Government President making this all possible. Requesting your money to purchase all the varieties of snacks, drinks and fruits. Loading them into his vehicle and with very little help unloading; and I must say in very inclement weather. Not to mention selecting morning and afternoon snacks and setting them out. And the thing that makes him continue to this… because he wants to give back to you… the students. Hearing students, teachers and staff say thank you is the bonus.

Not only are the students in awe about not knowing why the red table cloth can no longer comfort them; but you should know your Student Government is desperately trying to figure out what they can do next to help the Mat-Su College student.

I want to encourage students to come by your Student Government office JKB 114. Ideas of any kind will be welcome. You will never be ignored by just stopping by to say "hi." The best thing any student could do is join your Student Government and get involved.

All I see now is the table leaning against a gray file cabinet in the office. The symbolic red table cloth is gone but not forgotten. I am very proud of your Student Government president, who is also a student, for sharing his time and working for the students at the Mat-Su College.

Respectfully submitted.

Food and Student Government

For this issue people involved with student Government submitted a couple of articles that reference their efforts to distribute food. Some of these articles are critical of the college administration for denying Student Government's requests to purchase food or food-related products. So that students can get "both sides" of the issue, we encourage students to listen to College Director Colberg's remarks to Student Government, made on March 8. In his presentation Director Colberg mentions that the student activity fee was raised several years ago in order to fund more student events, not purchase food; that the college's food vendor did not expect to have to compete with free food; and that there are safety issues related to food processing equipment.

The recording can be found here: *goo.gl/NiuqcW*

Mat-Su Monitor Asks: What are your thoughts on Trump?

By Michelle Sharpe

In a stunning turn of events, Donald Trump got elected President of the United States. We all laughed when he said he was running in 2015, we were all a little confused when he was the Republican Candidate pick, and in November, half of us were very excited and the other half of us were mortified by the fact that he won the electoral vote.

He has been president for three months now and the public opinion of him is as divided as ever. In my first attempt to be a serious amateur journalist, I decided to take to the cafeteria and the hallways in-between classes and bombard a few carefully selected student (people who agreed to let me interview them) with some carefully thought-out queries, in the belief that people who are against or for him could find some common ground. To my surprise, almost every single person I've talked to has agreed that the President is indeed on Twitter way too much. At last, something we can all agree on.

I would like to take this moment to say that the opinions stated in this article are just that, opinions. Not everything stated in this is accurate, and as the writer, I do not personally agree with all of the opinions expressed by my interviewees.

What are your initial thoughts on President Trump? Good or Bad?

Student 1: I don't really keep up with politics.

Person 3: I think he's been jumping the gun on a lot of things. A lot of programs have been shut down already. Nothing that I'm really worried about. I trust the other two parts of our government. They're doing alright. Hopefully he figures out how to work with them to do better. The Muslim ban thing is a rough situation.

Student 4: He's signing a lot of executive orders. I know that the travel bans that he's put up have gotten a lot of hate and a lot of people have interpreted it as a religious ban against Muslims. But, it is just a travel ban. If it was specifically targeted towards Muslims, there are much bigger countries that he could've banned travel from where Muslim immigration is much higher than the countries that he did. However, I also don't think that he should have banned travel from those countries. At least not without any forewarning. I would say that he is doing a good job. He hasn't done anything that bad yet, and that's a good thing.

Student 5: He's kind of in the middle. There's room for growth.

Student 6: He's doing pretty well.

Student 7: Ummm, I haven't really been keeping up with the news. I tend to try to stay away from politics because politics drive me nuts. I would've preferred if he didn't overturn the choice of whether women could abort or not (Roe V. Wade). That was one of the first things he did. DeVoss is an idiot. She's the only person I have an opinion on.

Student 8: He's a good business man. But I don't think he sees the half of the population that wasn't born into wealth. He doesn't really see the poverty side of things.

What would you like to see Trump accomplish while in office?

Student 1: I have no idea.

Student 2: I don't really know his views on stuff. But I want him to keep abortion and Planned Parenthood. I've heard he's really against that stuff and I don't agree with him. And I'd hope he would rethink some of those decisions that he's making. And, I don't know, [add] some more diversity in his cabinet. It's a whole bunch of old white guys.

Person 3: Uhhh, I don't have any actual goals. Nothing that I'd really like to see him do. Just don't mess up. We can do it.

Student 4: I'd like to see him learn more about politics. Right now, he's not a politician, he's learning to be. And

Continued on page 15

LOST AND FOUND

Now housed at the Library!

Have you recently lost your:

Keys? Phone? Jacket or sweater? Earbuds? Flash drive? Other items?

Ask at the front desk, and we may be able to help you find it!

GOUNDLINGS COFFEE SHOP NOW OPEN AT THE GLENN MASSAY THEATER

Mat-Su College's Glenn Massay Theater will now be home to Groundlings, an on campus coffee shop. The name "Groundlings" is a play on not only coffee grounds, but is also a little nod to Shakespeare. Most of the Shakespeare's poorer audience members who would pay one penny (which was almost an entire day's wage) to stand in front of the stage were referred to as groundlings, while the richer patrons would sit in the covered galleries, paying as much as half a crown each for their seats.

Groundlings will be available Fridays, 10am-4pm until Summer session when it will be available Monday-Friday 10am-4pm. It will also be available during evening and weekend events hosted by The Glenn Massay Theater. All products sold at Groundlings are from the certified organic, Alaska-based, Kaladi Brothers Coffee Company, featuring most coffee standards such as espresso, lattes, mochas, cappuccinos and drip coffee. Various flavors are available, as are a variety of milk choices: whole, nonfat and soy. You can get your favorite warm beverage.

Groundlings gives the staff and students a new location to meet with friends or study with comfortable seating, table space and a chance to appreciate the floor-to-ceiling windows of the Glenn Massay Theater lobby, which allow you to bask in the sunlight, get out of the wind, or watch the snowflakes fall while staying nice and warm inside.

Take advantage of this opportunity to stretch your legs, and get your coffee at Groundlings at The Glenn Massay Theater!

GROUNDLINGS

ESPRESSO	12 OZ	$2.00	CAPPUCCINO	12 OZ	$2.50
ESPRESSO	16 OZ	$3.00	CAPPUCCINO	16 OZ	$3.50
LATTE/MOCHA	12 OZ	$3.00	DRIP	12 OZ	$2.00
LATTE/MOCHA	16 OZ	$4.00	DRIP	16 OZ	$2.50
EXTRA SHOT		$1.00			
EXTRA FLAVOR		$.25			
SOY MILK		$.75			

Have you earned an "A" on a class assignment?

2017 Student Showcase Conference

Friday, April 21

Publically present your accomplishment to your campus community. Enter your work in the 2017 Student Showcase Conference for the chance to win a 3-credit tuition waiver, a Mini iPad, or a Kindle.

Submission Deadline:
April 3, 2017, 5:00 pm
The Copy Center

Rules & application at
http://matsu.alaska.edu/student-showcase/

If you have questions contact Dr. Felicia Desimini, Art Department Coordinator
Phone: 745-9755
Email: fdesimini@alaska.edu

Literacy *continued from page 2*

for reading and sharing. The teacher and students then read out loud together. In order to carry their books back and forth to school, the children were sent home with backpacks that have the logs and the title Dog Gone Good Reader on them. In addition, the parents were told what the child was reading at school and given a DVD for further instructions. The children take the books home and read it two or three times independently or to someone. Books, backpacks, and all other material needed for this program were donated by educational grants.

Successful Results:

The initial study showed that students gained important information that allowed them to handle difficult texts. At home parents encourage their children to read to pets, stuffed animals, dolls, and other children. This makes reading a pleasant experience, encouraging for future readers to continue to read. The sharing of books between parents and their children helped student feel successful. The fact that parents take an interest in their children's school work helps build self-worth, confidence, and self-esteem in their children. Studies done on the Dog Gone Good Reading program revealed improved and an increased reading rates when compared to students in the mainstream reading programs.

Phase 2: Action-Increase Children's Reading Skills

This plan is called The Parents as Parents in Reading. In the first step, parents are required to participate in the classroom with their children for a period of one month. Next, the parents are tutored by the child's teacher. Both the parents and students work on the same assignments and out of the same textbook at the same time. This gives parents the control and guidance necessary to help the children increase their literacy skills.

Successful Results:

This plan will work because it educates the parents and allows them to monitor their children's development. The Parents as Parents in Reading helps builds a strong bound between parents, students, and teacher. In addition, the program enabled parents to help their children with school activities and increased parents' confidence in their own reading abilities.

Phase 3: Action-Improve Literacy Skills in Children with Dyslexia

One of the most challenging learning disabilities is dyslexia. Children through no fault of their own are born with this disability. The good news is current research has found studies that show positive improvements in children with dyslexia. In one study, students with dyslexia were placed in both mainstream classes and Dyslexia Institutes. Researchers compared the results. Students in the mainstream classes reported feeling shut out from their peers as well as disliked and stigmatized. In addition, these child displayed lower self-confidence, lower self-esteem, and less self-concept. In the same study, children that were placed in specialist setting such as Dyslexia Institutes show a positive attitude being with children with the same needs. Children with dyslexia in special reading classes reported improvements in their literacy development and their highly positive attitudes to learning.

Successful Results:

17 of the 20 children chose special school placement as their preferred option. Out of 71 children with dyslexia enrolled in reading programs, 90% made gain in reading accuracy, 97% made gains in comprehension and 90% made gains in their spelling.

Conclusion

For years researchers have tried to answer the age old riddle of how to improve the illiteracy rate among America's children. Yes, they have done hundreds and perhaps thousands of studies and have identified several variables when it comes to poverty and how it affects the abilities of American's children to read. These studies included looking at the parent's gender, age, education, income, profession, how many children are in the family, the age of the child, what academic materials were in the household, parents' involvement, and social status. Regardless what order you put the variables in, it is just the tip of the iceberg of studies that have been done. The answer to this *elusive age old riddle is good old fashion work.* The problem when it comes to illiteracy among American children is not poverty, rather lack of practice.

Monitor Asks *cont. from page 13*

that's the hard part for him. Once he learns a little more about how politics works, I think he'll do better.

Student 5: I'd like to see economic growth. Like, getting our own country out of debt, which he has started doing. So that's really nice. And also better relations with other countries.

Student 6: No comment.

Student 7: I don't really have any expectations for him. I didn't want him in there in the first place.

Student 8: Definitely try and break our economic standstill. Cuz we're not really getting anywhere and we're still kind of in a decline. So if he could fix that with all of his small million dollar loans, that would be great. I do feel like the wall is going to piss some people off. I kind of see what he's trying to do, but I kind of don't. If people are trying to come over to America, there's a reason and they just want help. And instead of pushing them away, we should help them.

What are your thoughts on Trump's relationship with social media and Twitter?

Student 1: I think he should be more mature. He should present himself better.

Student 2: I've heard that it's really out there. And he says some weird things on there. I think he could be a little more professional in that area. It's weird to see the President of the frigging country is on Twitter all the time saying random stuff. I don't know, he's weird.

Student 3: *Chuckles* I think he should shut down his Twitter. 110%. I don't think the president should be allowed to say anything about any meeting right afterwards.

Student 4: I'm just waiting for the moment when Twitter bans him. Just bans his account. It's going to be hilarious.

Person 5: I like a president who expresses themselves.

Person 6: Maybe he's expressing himself a little too much… and too much detail on some points. But, he is the president. What are you going to do?

Student 7: It's a little unhealthy. He's on there way too often. He uses it to his advantage and that's wrong.

Student 8: Well I definitely see that he's on social media a lot more than actually in his office. He likes to criticize past presidents and celebrities and other people much more than actually getting things done. I feel like he's more busy trying to entertain us than actually sustain us. He's too focused on his public image than he is on his presidential image.

Do you believe that the media is really the enemy of the people?

Person 3: I think Trump should pay more attention to his job more than the news. The news is going to be the news. No matter what, you're going to have three different opinions on three different stations. And it's correct. It should be that way. He shouldn't get offended.

Student 8: It kind of is. But the fact that our generation is sort of rooted into it, umm, I mean if he's trying to take it away, good luck. Because he's kind of obsessed with it himself. But it is. We get addicted to technology and the media. (Upon letting person know by media I meant the news) Oh! Umm, I don't really know much about the news, but I can say that if he's trying to cover something up, they would be the first ones to expose him. I mean, if he's doing something shady… I don't think it's okay for him to be secretive.

Would you like to see him do a good job?

Person 1: I'm not sure he's going to. Like, I would like him to. I'm not going to root for him to fail.

Person 2: I'd like him to do a good job.

Person 3: I mean, he's the President. He's going to be there. So hopefully he learns to work with the rest of the government.

Student 7: I'm not a fan.

Did you like this article? Which issue or subject should I ask about next? For suggestions, feel free to drop a request at the library or in Mat-Su Monitor boxes located around the campus.

Turn it up *cont. from page 1*

coming dance on March 24th is another great example. This being put on by your Dance Club. And please stop by and get your FREE tickets so you can attend. In April there will be an Easter Event, please stop by and give us some ideas how we can make this family friendly, and what date and time would be best.

April 26, is the student appreciation barbeque and elections day: free hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and other tasty items for you to enjoy. Everything is free and your family is welcome. Possibly some games and other fun events for that day, depending on the weather.

So in review, clubs can be made or joined; all suggestion are welcomed. Your Student Government meets every Wednesday in room JKB108 from 11:50 to 12:50 to give you a voice and a chance to be heard. Please consider this venue. Your Student Government office is in room JKB114, next to the café. Stop in and say, "Hi."

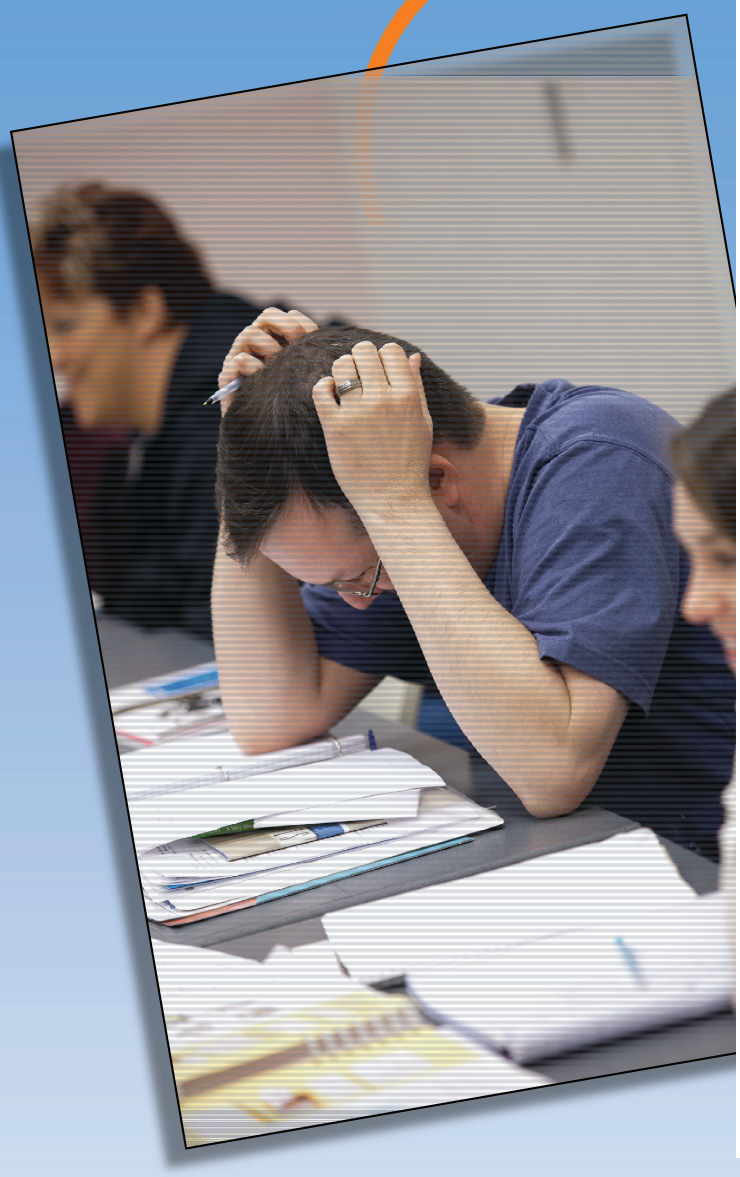
It is time for the Mat-Su College students to "Turn It Up."

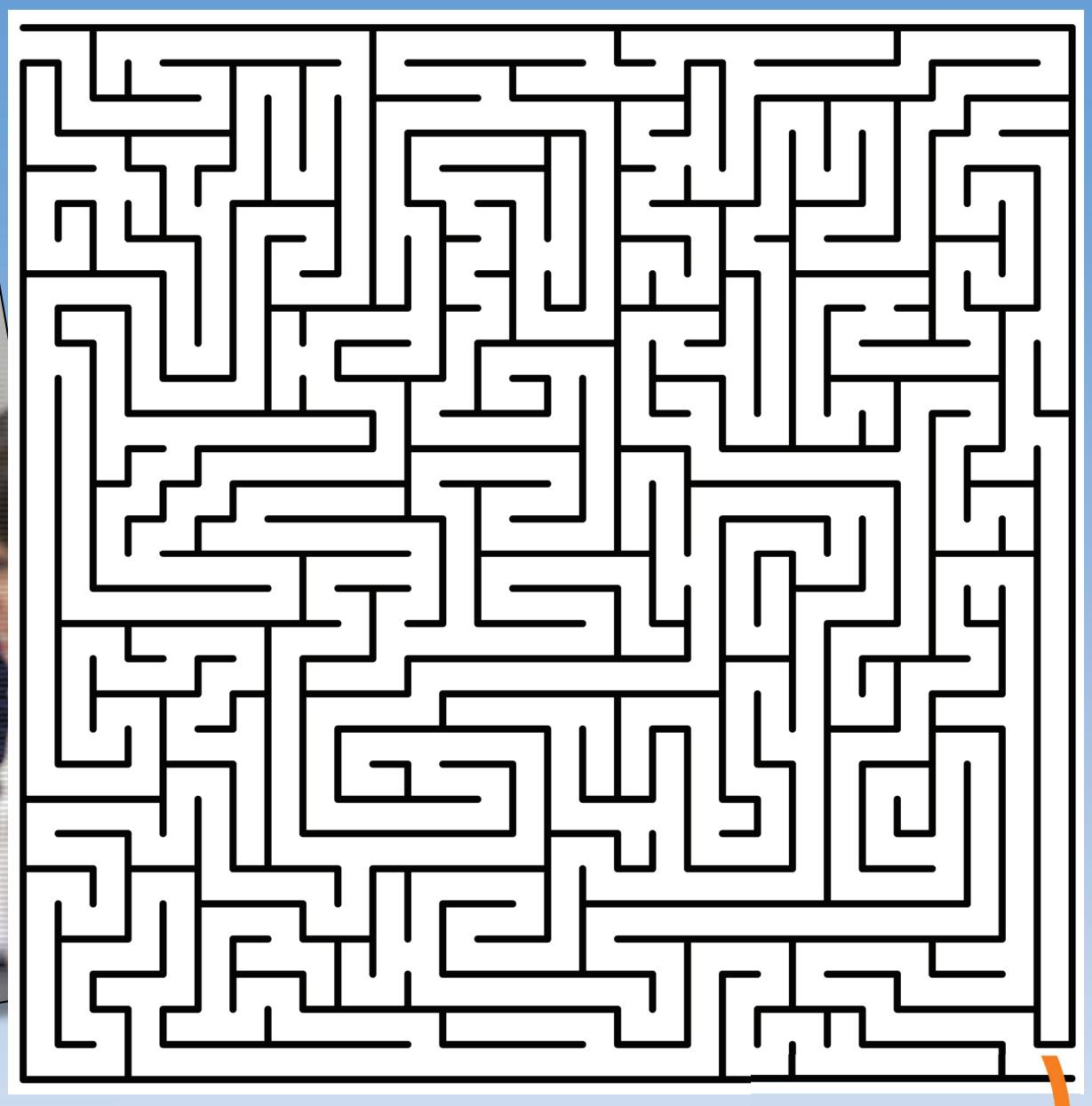
Get involved with YOUR paper!

The Mat-Su Monitor is open to students of all experience levels. A paper like ours always needs writers, artists, graphic designers, advertisement coordinators, photographers, and more (maybe you can contribute something we haven't even thought of!

Meetings: Mondays and Thursdays, 12:00 to 12:50, in OLB 214 (upstairs in library).

College can be confusing...





Let us help you!

College 101 Sessions
How to get started!
Look for dates on
matsu.alaska.edu

Is eLearning right for you? Check out matsu.alaska.edu/elearning/

Financial Aid - helpful advisors and payment plans available.

Academic Advisors are available year-round to guide you. Call (907) 745-9762.

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